

# **Riverside Neighborhood Partnership**

**Minutes of the  
September 10, 2001, 6:30pm  
Meeting Place: La Sierra University**

**Members Present:** John Strzelewicz, Tom Martin, David McNiel, Jaime Hurtado, Arthur Bos, Marie Leggette, Phyllis Wells, Manuel Carrasco, Brenda Flowers, Bruce Kulpa, Phil Abraham, Rosie Francisco

**Excused:** Richard Ramirez, Rich Biber, Patrick Williams, Ed Adkison, Barbara Brown, Paul Fick, Dana Kruckenberg

**Absent:** Richard Burns, Bob Holstein, John Garcia, Ernie Hautala, Nancy Hart

**Guests:** Belle Bevins, Bonnie Poulsen, Valerie Littlehawk, Terri Thompson, K. N. Robson, Pete Dangermond, Tony Esquibel, Dr. Larry Garity, Henry Moore, Randie Davis, Andy Emery, Greg Priamos, Interim City Attorney

**Staff:** Eva Webster, Office of Neighborhoods; Martha Matus, Office of Neighborhoods; and

## **1. Welcome/Self-Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Strzelewicz at 6:35pm. Self-introductions followed. Dr. Garity welcomed the RNP members and their guests. Arthur Bos gave an overview of the history of the La Sierra neighborhood.

## **2. Approval of Minutes – July 9, 2001**

General consent on approval of the minutes from the July 9, 2001. No corrections having been requested, minutes approved by chairman.

## **3. Guest Speaker - Greg Priamos, Interim City Attorney**

- Mr. Priamos presented an overview of the services provided by the City Attorney's office and a summary the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code sections 54950-54962). Mr. Priamos determined that the Riverside Neighborhood Partnership Committee is subject to the Brown Act. Questions and answers followed.

## **4. Reports from Subcommittees**

### **A. Jack B. Clarke Good Neighbor Award – Jaime Hurtado, Chair**

Jaime reported that the nomination forms were mailed out on August 14, 2001, and to date the office has received nine (9) nominations. The subcommittee will make their selection by October 19<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to award the winner with a wall plaque at the Awards Ceremony and the Mayor's Annual State of the Neighborhood Address on November 17<sup>th</sup>. All nominees will receive a letter of recognition.

### **B. Neighborhood Pride Awards – David McNiel, Chair**

David reported that the nomination forms were distributed on August 14, 2001, and approximately 15 nominations were received to date. He also stressed the need to the RNP members to help distribute and/or nominate homes in their community. Each of the five (5) areas represented by the RNP will be selected the top three award winners for a

total of 15 awards. The RNP area representatives and members will act as judges. A judging packet and criteria will be given to help in the selection process. The 15 awards will be presented at the awards ceremony and Mayor's Annual State of the Neighborhood Address on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The awards will consist of a perpetual plaque, Lucite trophy, wall plaque, yard sign, and all nominees will receive a certificate of recognition.

The subcommittee agreed with Nancy Hart's idea of a door hanger. The door hangers would be printed on either plastic or cardstock and would be used by neighborhood organizations, associations, and the RNP to express appreciation to the resident for the upkeep, improvements, and/or beautification projects of their homes. Office of Neighborhoods staff will look into having them made.

### **C. Mission and Goals – Tom Martin, Chair**

Tom did not have any new matching grant applications to report.

### **5. Public Utilities Underground in Residential Neighborhoods – David McNiel**

- David reported that the City in the past has worked with neighborhoods to move utility lines to back alleys in order to salvage trees under powerlines in neighborhoods. He suggested that the RNP explore the idea of addressing the impact that powerlines have on trees and what can be done to relocate powerlines. A motion was made by Brenda Flowers to form a subcommittee to explore what is necessary to implement this venture. Brenda Flowers and Manuel Carrasco volunteered to serve on the subcommittee with David McNiel as chair.  
(Flowers/Carrasco/Carried)

### **6. Future agenda items**

- At the June RNP meeting, John Garcia requested that the RNP address the day laborer issue in the Casa Blanca Neighborhood. John will be contacted to see if he is interested in presenting that item.
- Manuel Carrasco asked to be agendaized to report on the results of the Sick Building Syndrome problem at Alvord Unified School District.
- RNP participation in Dangermond Group park and recreation workshops.

### **7. Other Business**

(The following was taken out of order after the guest speaker under item 3.)

Peter Dangermond is working with the City to update the General Plan's Park and Recreation Open Space Element for the City of Riverside. Mr. Dangermond detailed five key elements that his firm will be working on: 1) development of a document called "Challenges and Choices;" 2) survey to discover local trends and compare them with statewide trends; 3) physical inventory; 4) public input by neighborhood groups; 5) implementation of five community workshops in January and February 2002.

Information gathered and assessed will be provided to a Work Group that has been named and authorized by the City Council to present findings and make recommendations. The item was asked to be agendaized for next month's meeting by David McNiel.

### **8. Election of Officers**

Election of officers was held by nominations taken from the floor and votes counted by a show of hands. The following officers were elected for the July 2001 – 2002 year:

Manuel Carrasco – Chair  
Richard Ramirez – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
David McNiel – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

**9. Next Meeting: October 1, 2001, 6:30 p.m. Location to be announced.**

**10. Adjournment**

**Meeting notes prepared by the Office of Neighborhoods**